

May 31, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION RATIFYING
SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY - DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND
RECREATION, LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM FOR THE
BELVEDERE PARK EXERCISE TRAIL, KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION
AREA EXERCISE TRAIL, LOS ROBLES PARK EXERCISE TRAIL AND
NORTHBRIDGE PARK EXERCISE TRAIL**

(1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Districts – 3-Vote)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find the proposed projects are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) according to the Sections of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, cited herein.
2. Adopt the attached resolution ratifying the Department's submission of applications to the State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation, for funding for the proposed projects under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program.
3. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, as agent of the County, to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including but not limited to, project grant agreement(s), amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned projects.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adoption of the attached resolution by your Board will authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to complete the application process with the State Department of Parks and Recreation (Grantor), California Resources Agency, for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF). The applications must include a resolution by your Board authorizing the applications. Project applications must be postmarked or submitted to the grantor no later than May 2, 2005, and were submitted in accordance with this deadline as incomplete applications. Authorizing resolutions for the proposed projects however, may be submitted after this deadline without penalty. Final project scopes of work and cost estimates for the proposed projects were not finalized until late April, thereby preventing the Department from submitting an authorizing resolution to your Board and the grantor by the aforementioned deadline.

Under LWCF, Southern California's allocation this year for competitive grants to local jurisdictions is \$2.5 million. Trails projects are a priority one funding category this year. Each grant awarded requires a 50 percent funding match. Upon your Board's approval, the authorizing resolution will be submitted to the grantor and will complete the County's applications for the following projects:

Belvedere Park Exercise Trail

The proposed grant project scope of work includes the construction of approximately 4,200 linear feet of decomposed granite trail, eight feet in width and five par course fitness stations adjacent to the trail. The cost of these improvements is estimated at \$250,000.

Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Exercise Trail

The proposed grant project scope of work includes the construction of approximately 2,600 linear feet of decomposed granite trail, eight feet in width and six par course fitness stations adjacent to the trail. The cost of these improvements is estimated at \$206,000.

Los Robles Park Exercise Trail

The proposed grant project scope of work includes the construction of approximately 1,100 linear feet of concrete trail, six feet in width and five par course fitness stations adjacent to the trail. The cost of these improvements is estimated at \$262,495.

Northbridge Park Exercise Trail

The proposed grant project scope of work includes the construction of approximately 2,240 linear feet of decomposed granite trail, eight feet in width, retaining wall and four par course fitness stations adjacent to the trail. The cost of these improvements is estimated at \$258,000.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The action supports the following three goals of the County's Strategic Plan: Goal 4 (Fiscal Responsibility) by increasing the Department's public/private partnerships, managing our resources effectively, and investing in the public infrastructure; Goal 5 (Children and Families' Well-Being) by improving facilities used by children and families of the County; and Goal 6 (Community Services) by improving the quality of life for residents by offering services responsive to each community's specific needs.

FISCAL IMPACT/ FINANCING

Approval of the recommended actions will not result in an immediate impact to the General Fund. The Department has developed estimates of one-time start up and annual ongoing operational and maintenance costs for these projects. If the grant applications are successful, the Chief Administrative Office will review the cost estimates and work with the Department to determine the appropriate operating requirements and available funding. Based upon the funding timeline and anticipated project schedules, any one-time or ongoing operational costs from these projects would be expected to occur during Fiscal Year 2006-07, or thereafter.

The capital and operating cost requirements of the improvements proposed for funding under the LWCF grant applications, as well as the overall funding structure, are summarized below.

The total estimated project cost of the Belvedere Park Exercise Trail is \$250,000 and the requested grant amount is \$125,000. A match in the amount of \$125,000 is available from the First Supervisorial District's allocation of Proposition A County Excess funds.

The total estimated project cost of the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Exercise Trail is \$206,000 and the requested grant amount is \$103,000. A match in the amount of \$103,000 is available from the Second Supervisorial District's allocation of Proposition A County Excess funds.

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The total estimated project cost of the Los Robles Park Exercise Trail is \$262,500 and the requested grant amount is \$131,250. A match in the amount of \$131,250 is available from Proposition A funds.

The total estimated project cost of the Northbridge Park Exercise Trail is \$258,000 and the requested grant amount is \$129,000. A match in the amount of \$129,000 is available from Park In-Lieu fees in Park Planning Area No. 35.

The Department will return to your Board with the Chief Administrative Office upon the award of any of the requested grants to establish or adjust the project budgets.

Operating Budget Impact

If the grant applications are successful, the Department will develop estimates for both the one-time start-up costs and the ongoing operating costs upon completion of the project designs, when more detailed information about the improvements would be available.

The Department will work with the Chief Administrative Office to determine the appropriate operating requirements and available funding. Based upon the current funding timeline and anticipated project schedules, any one-time or ongoing operational costs from these projects, the Department is not anticipating it will incur until Fiscal Year 2006-07.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The LWCF is administered nationally by the National Park Service and provides funds to federal agencies, the 50 states and 6 territories. The State's allocation for this year is expected to be approximately \$7 million. Of that amount, about \$2.5 million will be available for competitive grants to local jurisdictions in Southern California for acquisition or development of lands and facilities that provide for public outdoor recreation.

This resolution has been prepared to establish the Board's intent to apply for State grant funds. Notification of award is scheduled to be announced in October 2005 and grant agreements for approved projects will be sent to local agencies in November 2005. The Department will be responsible for the completion of all funded projects within five years of the date of execution of a grant agreement.

County Counsel has approved the attached Resolution as to form.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed projects at Belvedere Park, Los Robles Park, Northbridge Park and Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) according to Sections 15303(e) and 15304(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 3(b) and 4(a) of the *Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines* adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the projects provide for the construction of a limited number of new, small facilities and minor alterations to land.

As a federally funded program, LWCF requires compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As required by the LWCF Procedural Guidelines, an environmental screening form has been completed and is being submitted for each proposed project as part of the grant applications. This form serves as the basis for the NEPA determination which will ultimately be made by the National Park Service.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES AND PROJECTS

There are no impacts on current services as a result of this action. If funding is awarded, the projects will be accomplished so as to minimize the impact on public use of the affected facilities.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval by your Board, please instruct the Executive Office, Clerk of the Board to forward one conformed copy to the Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division, and two (2) conformed copies of this letter and two (2) originals of the resolution to the Department of Parks and Recreation by Thursday, June 2, 2005, for completion of the grant application packets.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Guiney
Director

Attachments

c: Executive Office (22)
County Counsel

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**RATIFYING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE LAND AND
WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM FOR BELVEDERE PARK EXERCISE
TRAIL, KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA EXERCISE TRAIL, LOS
ROBLES PARK EXERCISE TRAIL AND NORTHBRIDGE PARK EXERCISE TRAIL
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, the Congress under Public Law 88-578 has authorized the establishment of a federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant-In-Aid program, providing Matching funds to the State of California and its political subdivisions for acquiring lands and developing Facilities for public outdoor recreation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Parks and Recreation is responsible for administration of the program in the State, setting up necessary rules and procedures governing Applications by local agencies under the program; and

WHEREAS, said adopted procedures established by the California Department of Parks and Recreation require the Applicant to certify by resolution the approval of Applications and the availability of eligible Matching funds prior to submission of said Applications to the State; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Belvedere Park Exercise Trail, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Exercise Trail, Los Robles Park Exercise Trail and Northbridge Park Exercise Trail improvements projects are consistent with the Statewide Comprehensive Recreation Resources Plan *California Outdoor Recreation Plan – 2002*; and

WHEREAS, the proposed projects located at Belvedere Park Exercise Trail, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Exercise Trail, Los Robles Park Exercise Trail and Northbridge Park Exercise Trail are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and

WHEREAS, the required environmental screening forms have been completed for the proposed projects at Belvedere Park Exercise Trail, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Exercise Trail, Los Robles Park Exercise Trail and Northbridge Park Exercise Trail for the National Park Service to use as the basis of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) determination; and

WHEREAS, the Projects must be compatible with the land use plans of those jurisdictions immediately surrounding the Projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors hereby:

1. Ratifies the filing of Applications for Land and Water Conservation Fund assistance; and
2. Certifies that said agency has Matching funds from one or more of the following sources: Park In-Lieu Fees (Quimby), and Regional Park and Open Space District, and can finance 100 percent of the Projects, half of which will be reimbursed; and
3. Certifies that the Projects are compatible with the land use plans of those jurisdictions immediately surrounding the Projects; and
4. Appoints the Director of Parks and Recreation or his designee, as agent of the County of Los Angeles to accept the grants, conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including but not limited to, applications, contracts, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, and compliance with all applicable current state and federal laws which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned Projects.

The foregoing resolution was on the _____ day of _____, 2005, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, Agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
of the County of Los Angeles

By _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

By _____
Helen S. Parker, Principal Deputy

Los Angeles County Chief Administrative Office

Grant Management

Department: Parks and Recreation		
Grant Project Title and Description		
Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Exercise Trail; Belvedere Park Exercise Trail; Northridge Park Exercise Trail; Los Robles Park Exercise Trail		
Funding Agency	Program (Fed. Grant#/State Bill or Code #)	Grant Acceptance Deadline
	Land & Water Conservation Fund	May 2, 2005
Total Amount of Grant Funding: \$488,250		
County Match: \$488,250		
Grant Period: Five Years	Begin Date: 11/2005	End Date: 11/2010
Number of Personnel Hired Under This Grant:	Full Time: None	Part Time: None
Obligations Imposed on the County When Grant Expires		
Will all personnel hired for this program be informed this is a grant-funded program?	Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No-NA
Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items?	Yes	
Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
If the County is not obligated to continue this program after the grant expires, the Department will:	NA	
b.) Identify other revenue sources (describe below)		
	Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No-NA
c.) Eliminate or reduce, as appropriate, positions/program costs funded by the grant.	Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No-NA
Impact of additional personnel on existing space:		
Not Applicable: This is a capital improvement grant project. No programs or personnel are involved.		
Other requirements not mentioned above:		
Grantee must own or lease project sites. Sites must be dedicated in perpetuity for public outdoor recreation pursuant to Section 6(f)(3) of the Land & Water Conservation Fund Act. All project sites are/will be held in fee title without encumbrances.		

Department Head Signature 

Date 5-2-05

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